

I Claim:

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1. A method of modifying an image to be digitally printed by a printing device to compensate for failure to correctly print dots of ink at specific locations, the method including the steps of:
 - a) identifying said specific location or locations, and
 - b) adjusting the dot size of at least one a dot at a location adjacent or near to the respective specific location from that required by the image data.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the dot size of said adjusted dot or dots is increased if no dot or an undersize dot is printed at the respective specific location.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the dot size of said adjusted dots is decreased if an oversize drop is printed at the respective specific location.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein dots located both transversely and longitudinally spaced from the respective location are adjusted in size.
- 15 5. The method of claim 1 wherein selected oversize adjusted dots contact or overlap adjacent dots.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein selected adjusted size dots do not contact or overlap adjacent dots.
7. A printer having a row of activatable devices which, when activated, cause rows of dots to be deposited onto a substrate and means to move the substrate relative to the row of devices in a direction generally perpendicular to the row of dots, said printer including:
 - 20 means to determine if one or more of said devices is not operating correctly;
 - and
 - 25 control means for analysing images or image data and for identifying a specific location or locations where a dot of ink should be printed by activation of a incorrectly operating device and for adjusting the size of dot produced by one or both of the devices on either side of the failed device.

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8. The printer of claim 7 wherein the control means adjusts the size of dots deposited in the same row as the respective specific location by one or both of the devices on either side of the failed device.

9. The printer of claim 7 wherein the control means adjusts the size of dots deposited by one or both of the devices on either side of the failed device at least one row adjacent or near to the row of the respective specific location.

10. The printer of claim 7 wherein if no dot or an undersized dot is produced by activation of the incorrectly operating device the size of dots produced by activation of one or both of the devices adjacent to the incorrectly operating device is increased.

11. The printer of claim 7 wherein the devices are thermo mechanical ink ejection devices and said control system causes the ejection devices to be activated for a longer period of time or supplies a larger driving signal, or both.

12. The printer of claim 7 wherein said devices are light emitting devices and wherein the amount of light emitted by said light emitting devices is adjusted.

13. The printer of claim 7 wherein said devices are portions of a photoconductive imaging drum and the dot size of said adjusted dots is adjusted by varying the amount of light the respective device is exposed to.

14. The printer of claim 7 wherein at least some oversize adjusted dots contact or overlap with adjacent dots.

15. The printer of claim 7 wherein adjusted size dots do not overlap contact with adjacent dots.

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